

2.2. Dehydrated MacConkey broth was bought from HiMedia (India) and prepared according to the manufacturer's instructions, then distributed into a screw-capped bottle fitted with an inverted Durham tube for the determination of coliform bacteria (total coliforms, TC, and fecal coliforms, FC) by most probable number method (Rice et al., 2012). The colony-forming unit (CFU), Fungi, and Yeast were determined based on the plate-counting method using specific media as in APHA (Young et al., 2005). Sterilization is done by autoclaving at 121°C for 15 min under a pressure of 15 lb. per square inch.